



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 09/540,524)
Filed: March 31, 2000) Art Unit: 2862
Confirmation No.: 1816) Examiner: T. Fetzner
Inventors: J. Tamez-Peña et al) Docket No.: 000687.00138
Title: MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING)
WITH RESOLUTION AND CONTRAST)
ENHANCEMENT)

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5/Petition to restart
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**PETITION TO RESET PERIOD TO REPLY
DUE TO LATE RECEIPT OF OFFICE ACTION**

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 12, 2001, the Applicants, through undersigned counsel, respectfully petition under MPEP §710.06 to restart the previously set period to reply to run from the date on which the Notice was received at the Applicants' representative's correspondence address, namely, January 15, 2002.

A copy of the cover page of the Office Action is attached hereto. As can be seen, the cover page shows a mailing date of December 12, 2001. However, the cover page also shows a date stamp identifying the receipt date as January 15, 2002. Further, the cover page shows the correct correspondence address; thus, the late receipt was not caused by any failure on the part of the Applicants' representative to provide a correct address.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the requirements under MPEP §710.06 for such a Petition are met.

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(A) The Petition is filed within two weeks of the date of receipt of the Notice at the correspondence address.

(B) A substantial portion – namely, more than a month – of the set period for reply had elapsed on the date of receipt.

(C) The Petition includes evidence showing the date of receipt at the correspondence address, in the form of a copy of the cover page of the Office Action with the firm's date stamp thereon. The undersigned hereby states that the Office Action was received at the correspondence address on January 15, 2002. The undersigned further states that the evidence establishes that date because all correspondence from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office received by the firm at the correspondence address is date-stamped on the date on which it is received.

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully petition for resetting of the time period for response to run from January 15, 2002. Notice of such resetting is earnestly solicited.

The Applicants respectfully submit that no fee is required for the instant petition. However, the Office is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME COMISKY & McCUALEY LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (000687.00138).

Respectfully submitted,

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